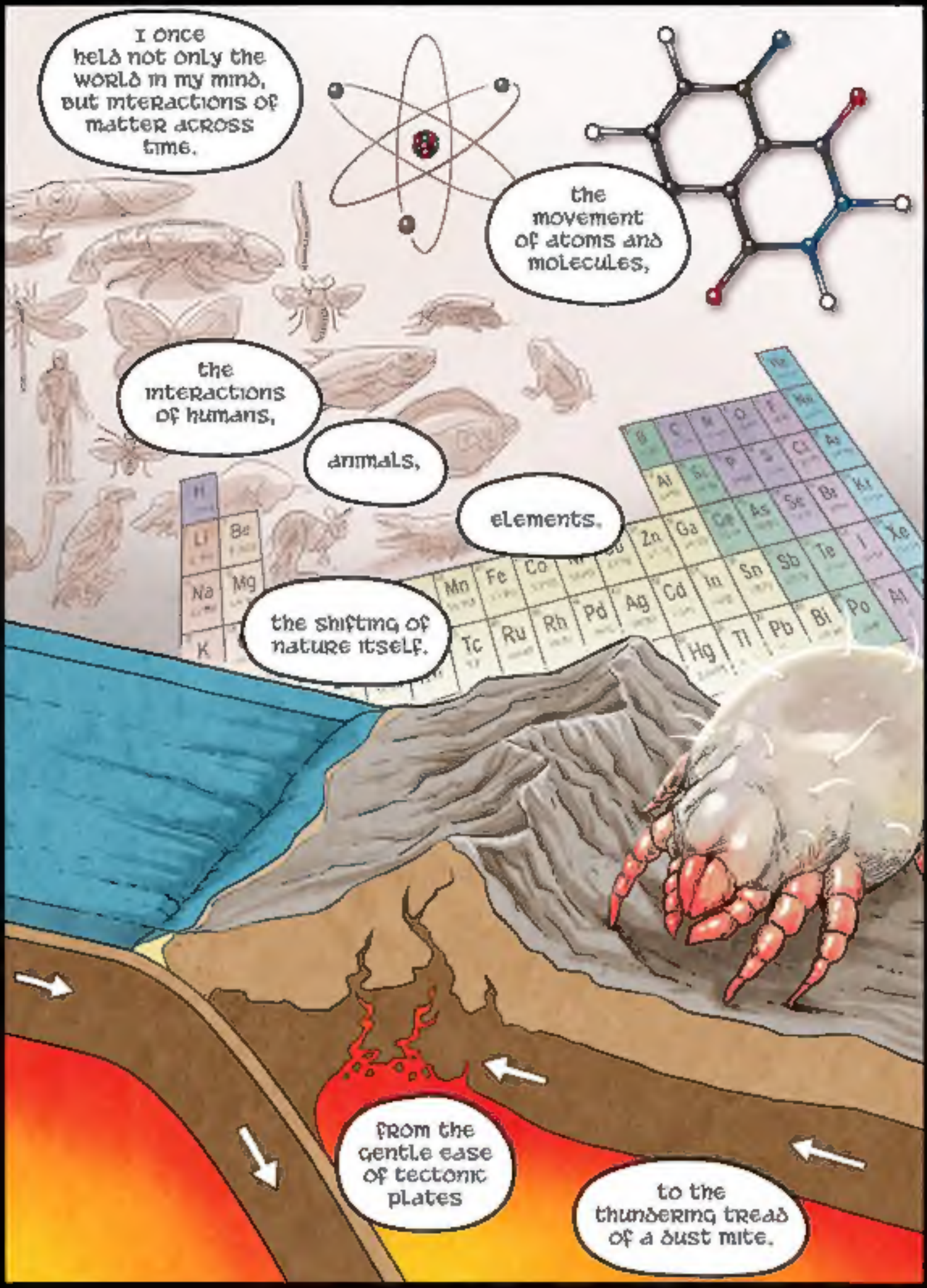
Gunnerkrigg Court

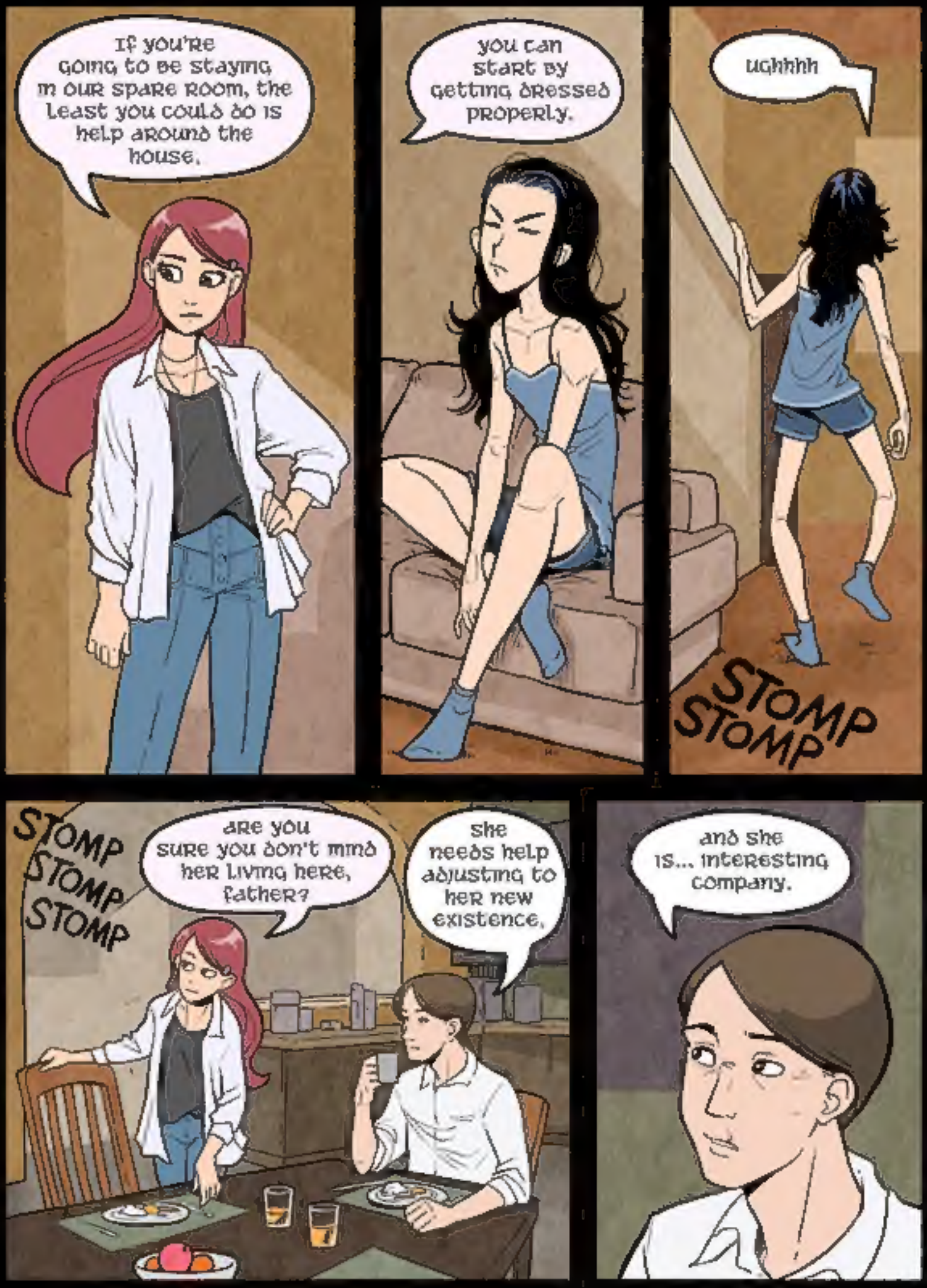
Chapter 100:

Energies and Fractures

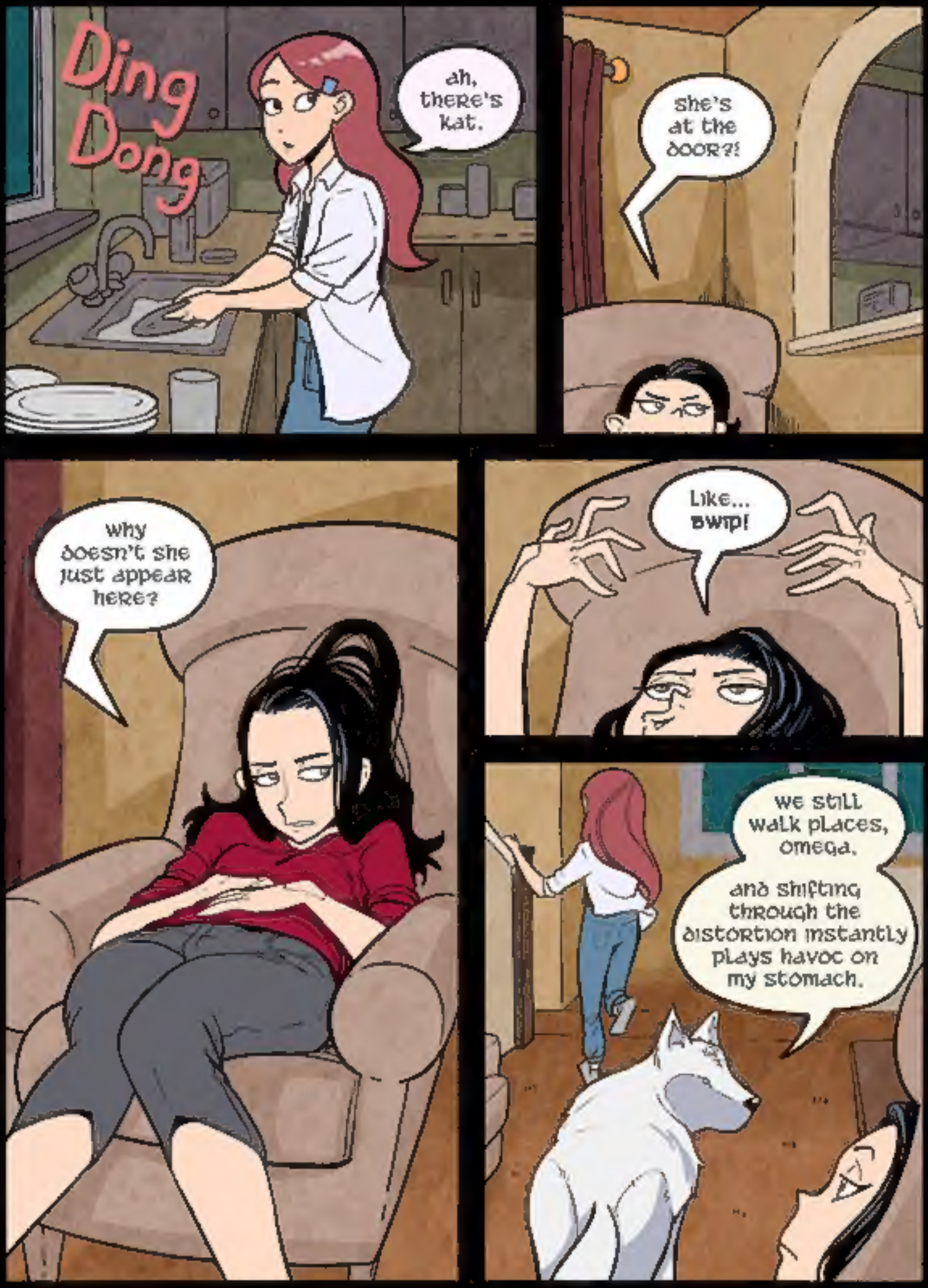
the distortion still stands.
and yet...
I see nothing!
I hold nothing in my view!


I once held not only the world in my mind, but interactions of matter across time.
the movement of atoms and molecules,
the interactions of humans,
animals,
elements.
the shifting of nature itself.
from the gentle ease of tectonic plates
to the thundering tread of a dust mite.

now, I forget more information every second than has ever been recorded.
a torrent slips away...
replaced with a clawing, seductive silence...
it envelopes me in a flood all of it's own. the weight of nothing.
the pressure of silence.
that's nice, omega, but you still have to do the dishes.
the silence!


If you're going to be staying in our spare room, the least you could do is help around the house.
you can start by getting dressed properly.
ughhhh
STOMP STOMP
STOMP STOMP STOMP
are you sure you don't mind her living here, father?
she needs help adjusting to her new existence.
and she is... interesting company.

Interesting and quite handsome, I might add.
In her own way.
don't you think, tony?
I am not interested in her in that way.
Renard, don't tease him.
but you know... she does seem to like you...
no.


Ding Dong
ah, there's kat.
she's at the door?!
why doesn't she just appear here?
Like... bwip!
we still walk places, omega.
and shifting through the distortion instantly plays havoc on my stomach.

I know she's older than all of us, but she really needs to grow up!
hahaha!
I can tell. my mum doesn't like her much.
she was once some sort of machine god. now she is brought down low to us mere mortals.
must be quite the change.
machine god. huh.
BWIP
oh!

ayilu?
oh! it's you!
of course! haha!
you know, red still hates you!
she'll be super mad at me for talking to you! haha!
hey! what's your problem?
it's nice to see you, too, ayilu.
is there something you need?
oh! haha, yes!
I think red might be dying!

what?!
that's right! I tried to think of someone who would help, and you sprang to mind!
that's really going to get her upset! hahaha!
okay, okay, will you tell us what's wrong?
oh! yes, yes, of course!
so, the fairies and the forest creatures - the ones that became human, I mean - have been getting together and making a place to live.
thanks to the distortion, you know?
and all the ones that were still working for the court were given names by this one teacher, Bugsy, who figured out how to do it herself.
I think I heard that you were involved with that? haha! Its made Red really mad!
get to the point!

okay, okay! red looks like she's sleeping, but she won't wake up.
and she's getting kinda pale
this sounds familiar ..
and I can't see her in the ether, either
oh no!
take us there, quickly!
BMP

she's not there..
she isn't working for the court anymore... this shouldn't be happening...
haha. so if you could just fix her up, you can get out of here!
?
ah.. look, young lady .. your friend -
wait! she still has a pulse!
she's still alive!

annie, remember when you could see andrew's powers?
he had strings coming from him that even the fairies couldn't see in the ether.
can you look at red like that?
hmm...
here! a faint essence of energy...
can you point it out to me?
in this area.
is it going to the star ocean?

I got it..
Look... it branches off somewhere else
Where does it go?
the map we made for omega pointed to a physical location... but let me try and overlay the signal.
Look...
we can see how it fractures all over the place

I'll rearrange the map to put these in order
what are these blank parts?
that's stuff in the distortion we didn't map stuff outside the court, or deep into the ether
see here... the center
wow . . it really does look like a fractured storm.
this has to be where zimmy is...

umm excuse me.
I don't know what you're doing, but can you get back to bed, please?
of course, of course!
aylu, is this happening to anyone else?
oh, yeah. there's a whole room full of people who aren't waking up.
why didn't you say so before?!

woah, hey, are these guys okay?
they're alive, like Red.
they have the same energy trail coming from them, too.
I don't think it will be good to leave them like this for long
Let me try something.

mmm .
hey! you woke up, dummy!
huff huff
kat, are you okay?
what s she doing here?!
you can leave now!
bye!
see ya!

I was able to disconnect her, but it was like pulling on a thread.
one of many, in a large tapestry
and it looks like it's all tied into the distortion.
antimony, can you look at me in the same way?
you have it too, renard.
then we can use my connection to find zimmy.
and free the others
rey...

I won't be able to disconnect more than one at a time by myself
I just now prepped my computer to make a tool that can do the job
but I'll need to go to my workshop to put it together and bring it back here.
okay. we can wait here and, um try to explain
OR you could just leave!
haha! get out of here!

BWIP
CLUMP
huh?
hi

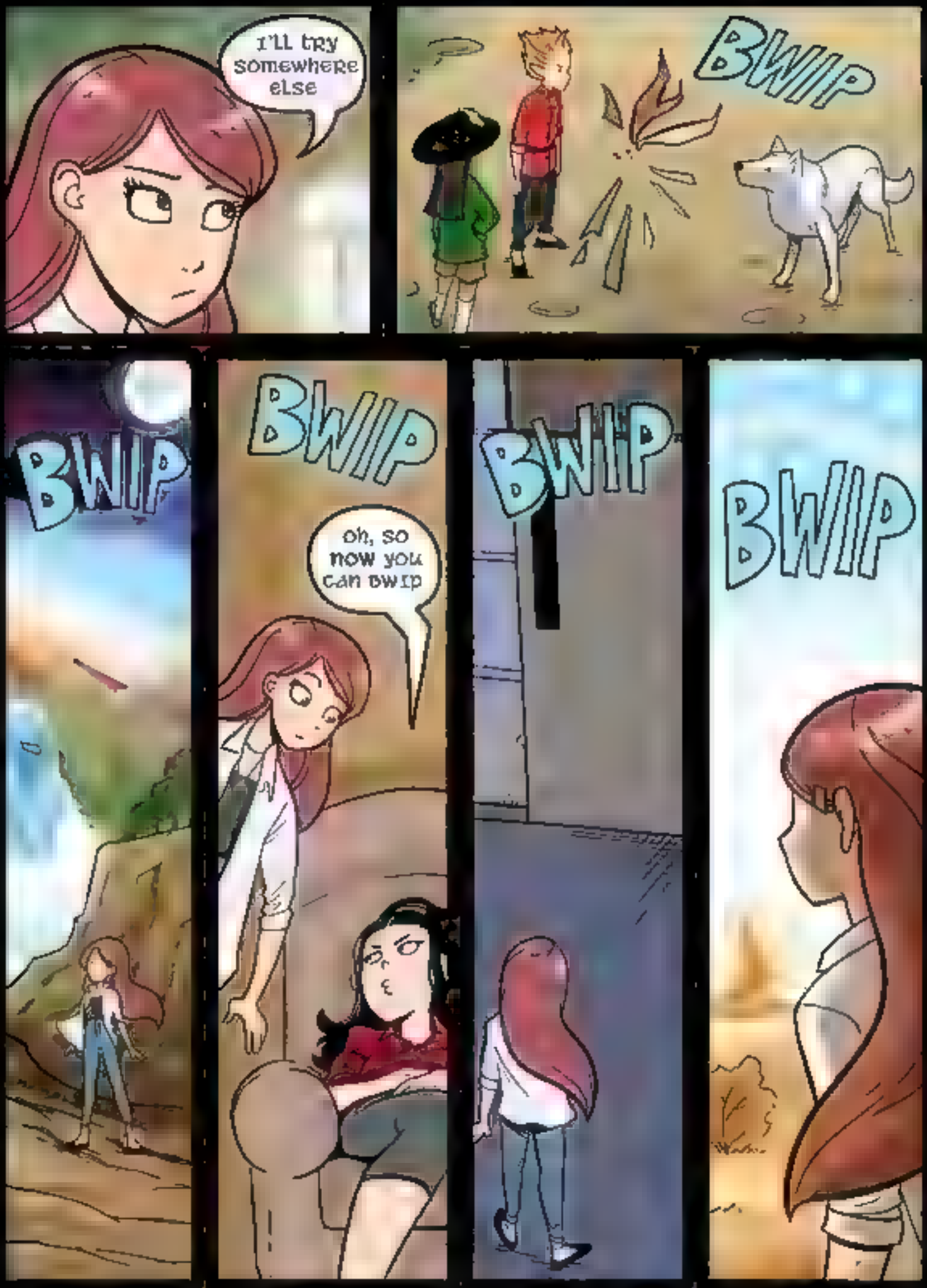
I just can't believe it!
didn't I tell you not to talk to me or ayilu ever again?!
yes, red, you did.
I think this is more important, though
you should be grateful to her, young lady!
I can't believe I can't even trust my best friend!
excuse me?
you're my best friend in the whole world and you didn't even listen to me!

uh. isn't ayilu your best friend?
what?! no way!
she's just the person I love the most!
but you!
you gave me my name.
helped me an' ayilu get back together.
even helped me with her name!
of course you're my best friend!
but I thought you hated me?
yeah?
what's that gotta do with anything?
don't look at me I try to avoid fairies.

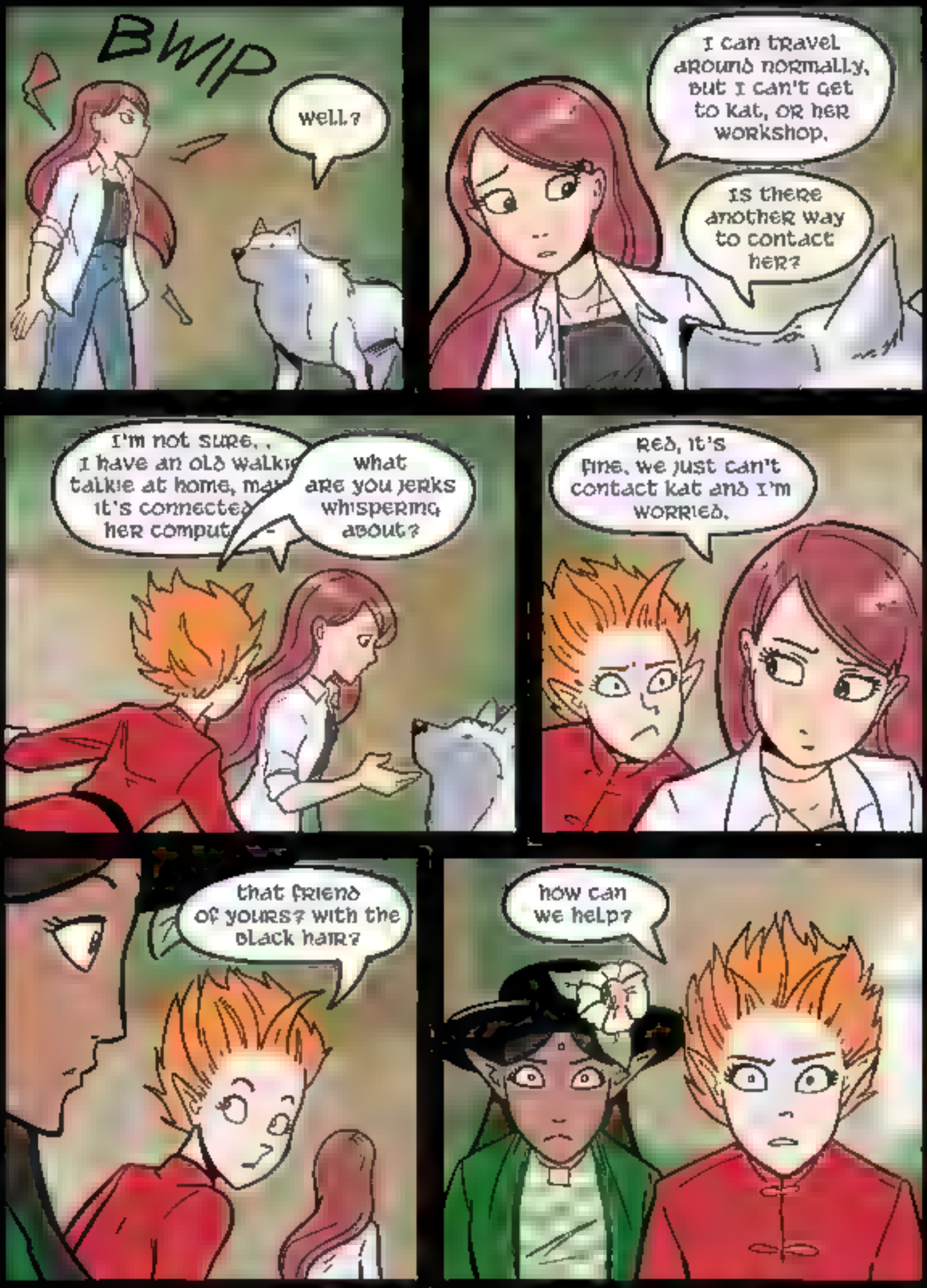
ugh, [redacted] talks about you all the time.
annie did this annie did that
annie wore this annie wore that
but I haven't seen you in . years!
oh, don't think I haven't been keeping an eye on you!
did you want to... hang out or something?
of course I did! every daaayy!
every day.

then.
Red. how have you been?
the distortion situation is very strange, right?
don't talk to me.
um...
so. aylu. I like your outfit!
but I noticed it was grey in the ether, not colourful.
that's becaus
this is my
boring
don't talk to her!

..
kat seems to be taking a while
I'll just go check up on her!
you stay here, renard!
hey! don't leave me here!
huh?
what's wrong?
I can't seem to travel to kat...


I'll try somewhere else
BWIP
BWIP
BWIP
oh, so now you can bwip
BWIP
BWIP

BWIP
oh, hey, annie!
what's up?
standby
got it
BWIP


BWIP
well?
I can travel around normally, but I can't get to kat, or her workshop.
Is there another way to contact her?
I'm not sure. . I have an old walkie talkie at home, maybe it's connected to her comput-
what are you jerks whispering about?
Red, it's fine. we just can't contact kat and I'm worried.
that friend of yours? with the black hair?
how can we help?

oh. hey, uh, zara, right?
how did you find this place?
oh, it's just something I can do.
were you thinking about me?
I find people
maybe.
a little

heh, annie and I could have used your help, I guess.
but we made a breakthrough with the distortion.
I think we found the person causing it.
zimmy, right?
you found her?
oh, you know about her? yeah.
that's a shame.

Jack?!
you used omega, didn't you?
you know her secret.
huh?
sorry, you're not escaping.
I blocked off this whole fracture
nobody's getting in or out
you ~ you know her secret.

Jack, I don't know what you're talking about
that omega woman, she's some kind of computer.
she knows zimmy's secret...
and now you know it too...
you did say you have full access to omega
I haven't even begun to figure out how omega works!
but you will.

hey! back off, man!
OOF!

SMASH
PAF

CRUNCH

Zara! you said there was nobody else here!
I was only looking for people!
I have no idea what those things are
Gah, dammit!
SMASH
no!

FIZZ
angel, are you hurt?
I - I'm fine..
Rosa, what is this?!
It's a barrier just a simple one.
BASH!

SMASH
CRACK
Jack, stop!
don't touch it!

I - I don't know what that is...
I can't do anything about it!
we're getting out of here.
no!
ZIP

BIP
BWP
kat!
annie!
what happened?!
jack he.. attacked me! he's gone crazy!
what?!
those two girls we met the other day were helping him zara and.. the other one.

I - I just froze up...
he... I think he was going to kill me
I have to tell eglamore about this
we can't have him running around hurting people.
I'm going to destroy him
wait! rosa, the other girl, she can stop people travelling through the distortion.
jack had symbols on his hands. he punched right through my robots. .
enhancer wards?
I think zara was doing it

oh no.. omega!
jack was ranting about omega! about some secret she knows...
that's why he attacked!
and zara... can find people and take him there!
father was meeting mr. donlan today..
omega's at home by herself!
your house?
I can't do it .
something's blocking me, too.
no!

just appear as close as you can!
BIP
thank God!
you're here!
omega?
omega!

was jack here?!
he was! the rascal!
he ~
oh no.

annie she's standing right here ..
you're in charge of the new people, remember...
I .. I died?
no! no! there was so much I wanted to do!
omega! what did you say to jack? about zimmy!
jack? that boy? that little good for nothing.
I - I..
I forget

I should not be here...
charles is waiting. do you know where he is?
thi- this way
wonderful!
I have so much to tell him!
ah! everything is so quiet!
such lovely silence!

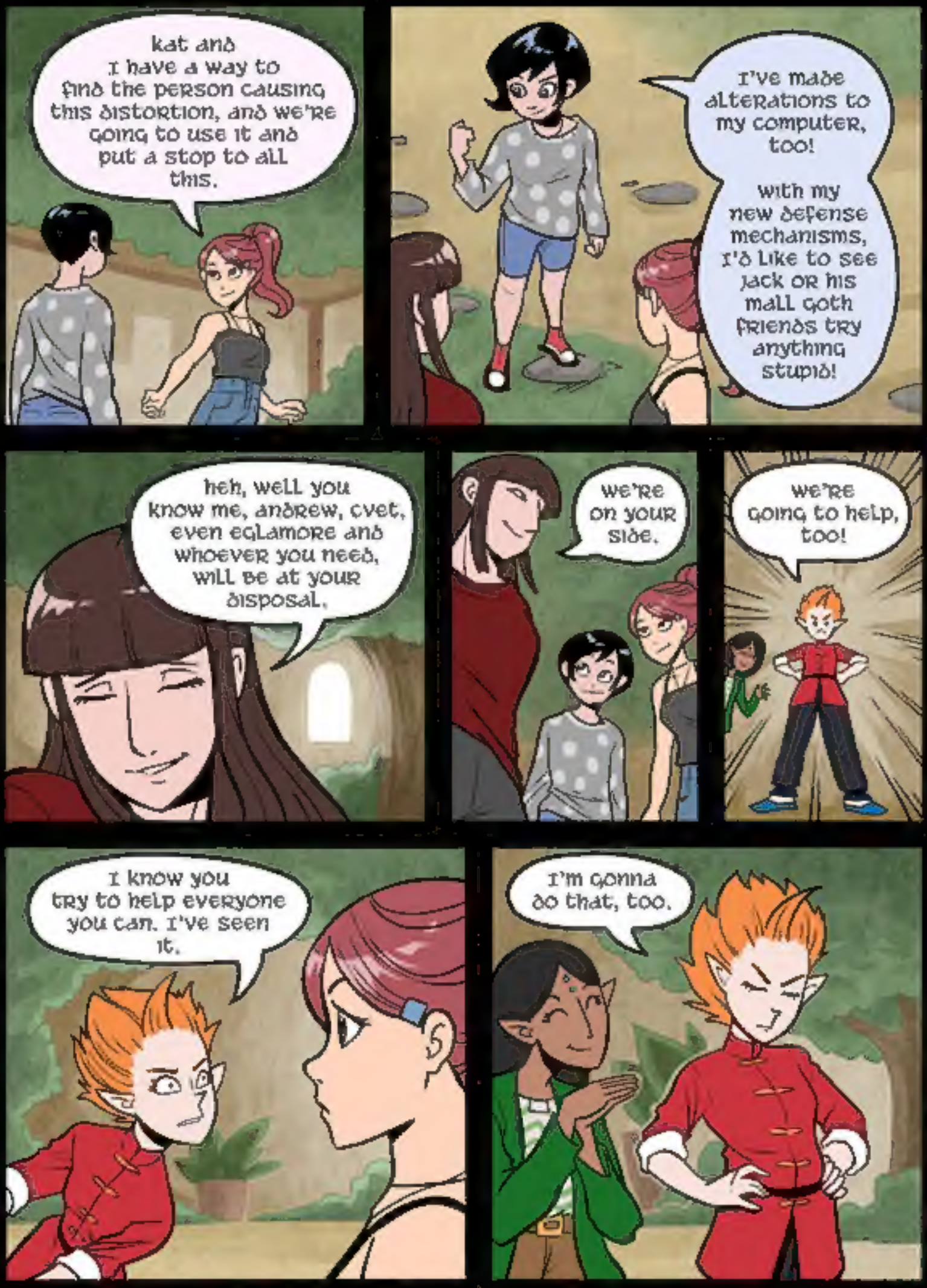
she's gone..
I... didn't get a chance to know her ..
she wasn't a bad person ..
she just ..
I don't know.
I don't know

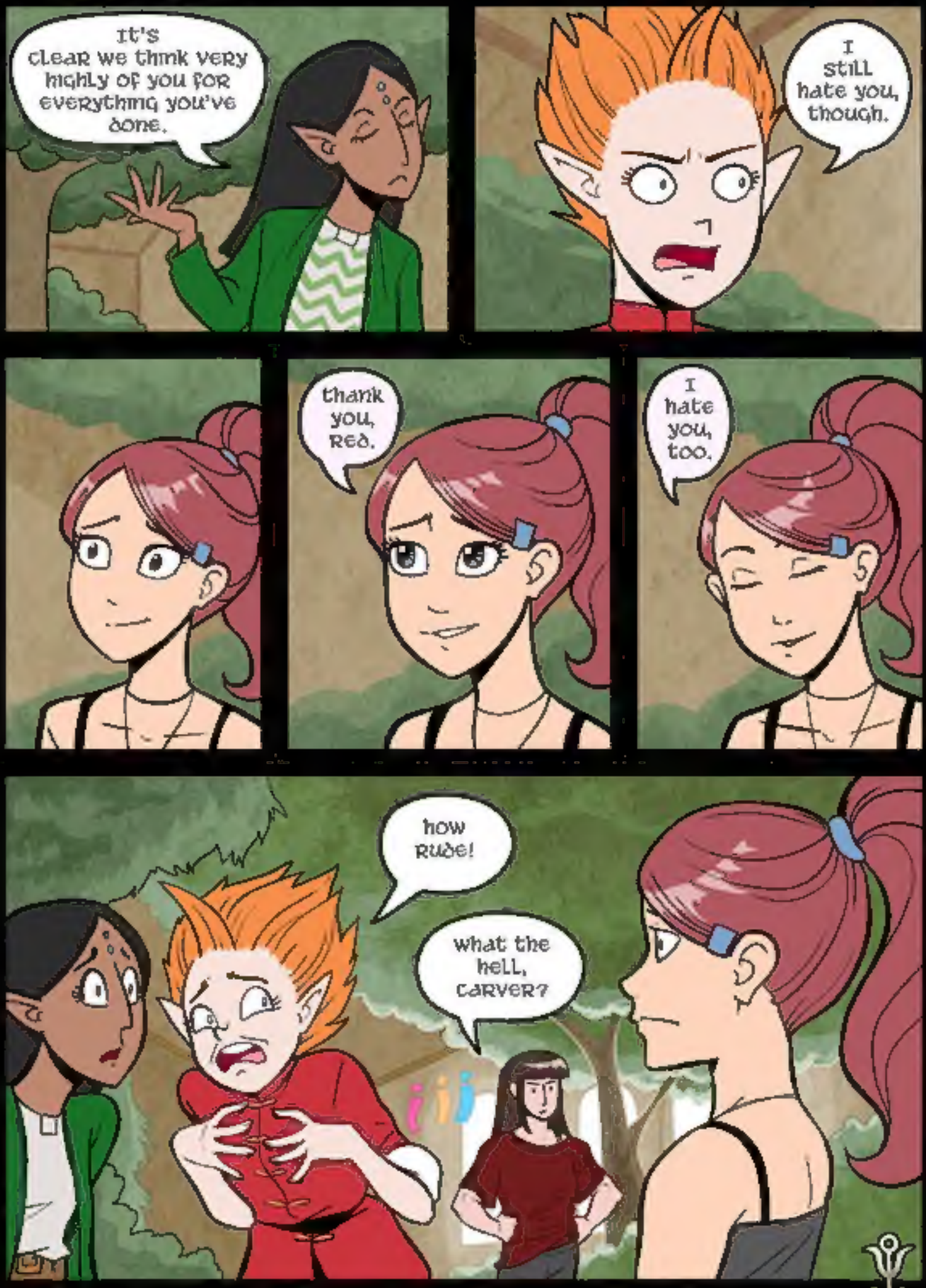
It is a shame... but she was a fool.
RENARD!
she set off that boy, Jack, and he came back and bit her.
but still, it is a shame
the distortion must be making it worse .. to think he would be willing to kill just because she said something to him.
anyone associated with Omega might be in danger. .
I can't believe he got the drop on me like that
kat, I'm not letting you out of my sight.

I'm calling this in.
We have to aprehend Hyland and his associates
Will you be okay here for now?
Yeah, don't worry
BIP
Stomp Stomp
What is it, Red?
Pat Pat
...

okay, just bring it near his head.
it worked!
BIP
hey
any luck?
nothing.
no trace of jack or his known associates anywhere

you're kidding! jack had friends.
we know.
zara anderson.
rosa delmar
and a girlfriend, right? jenny holloway
they're keeping themselves hidden.
and look, anne, I hate to say this, but the court isn't going to spend a lot of resources on this.
why am I not surprised?
as a person, omega wasn't a resident of the court. she wasn't even human.
whatever. I'm going to deal with this.


kat and I have a way to find the person causing this distortion, and we're going to use it and put a stop to all this.
I've made alterations to my computer, too!
With my new defense mechanisms, I'd like to see Jack or his mall goth friends try anything stupid!
heh, well you know me, andrew, cvet, even eglamore and whoever you need, will be at your disposal.
we're on your side.
we're going to help, too!
I know you try to help everyone you can. I've seen it.
I'm gonna do that, too.


It's clear we think very highly of you for everything you've done.
I still hate you, though.
thank you, Red.
I hate you, too.
how rude!
what the hell, Carver?

Gunnerkrigg Court

Keepsake

Bonus extended